

1 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 39

2 43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1998

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
12 AND ADMINISTRATION, THE CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES
13 DEPARTMENT AND THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO SUPPORT
14 ARRI BACARE.

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16 WHEREAS, the rate of uninsured persons in the county of
17 Rio Arriba is estimated to be as high as fifty percent; and

18 WHEREAS, the transition to ~~medicaid managed care~~ creates
19 a further strain on Rio Arriba's rural clinics, possibly
20 removing money which has subsidized health care for the
21 uninsured working poor; and

22 WHEREAS, the confluence of these factors threatens to
23 cause the collapse of Rio Arriba's only existing primary care
24 infrastructure in rural areas; and

25 WHEREAS, lack of access to services due to lack of health

Underscored material = new
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1 insurance increases hospital debt and costs by encouraging
2 inappropriate use of the emergency room and by inhibiting the
3 timely diagnosis and management of preventable conditions such
4 as diabetes; and

5 WHEREAS, the estimated demand for primary care encounters
6 in January of 1996 in Rio Arriba county was ninety-eight
7 thousand eight hundred eighty-nine compared to an actual
8 supply of encounters of ninety thousand six hundred,
9 necessitating the addition of an extra six physicians to meet
10 the demand; since many private physicians do not accept
11 medicaid, creation of a private insurance for the medically
12 indigent would boost the supply of available encounters to
13 meet the demand; and

14 WHEREAS, the incidence of deaths of men and women in Rio
15 Arriba county attributed to homicide leads the state at over
16 three times the statewide rate, and much of the violence is a
17 symptom of pandemic substance abuse, and Rio Arriba ranks
18 third among New Mexico counties in deaths of men from alcohol-
19 related accidents and fourth in suicide; and

20 WHEREAS, the plan for ArribaCare calls for the
21 integration of substance abuse treatment by training
22 physicians to do early risk assessment, by assigning treatment
23 patients a primary care provider and by increasing
24 communication between treatment facilities and primary care
25 providers and financing appropriate treatment through

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1 insurance coverage; and

2 WHEREAS, the ArribaCare might address and potentially
3 solve many issues of managed care in Rio Arriba county and
4 serve as a model for the state;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
6 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of health, the
7 children, youth and families department, the human services
8 department and the department of finance and administration be
9 requested to evaluate ArribaCare as a pilot for a model
10 statewide, and support the county of Rio Arriba with technical
11 and financial support; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
13 transmitted to the secretaries of health; children, youth and
14 families; human services; and finance and administration.